

Idaho Panhandle RAC Meeting
April 4, 2014
0900-1200

Committee Attending: Jon Cantamessa, Jack Buell, Barbara Botsch, Terry Steiner, Jackie McAvoy, MariBeth Lynch, Neil Smith, Robin Stanley, Mary Farnsworth, Bob McCoy, Patty Perry
Others Present: Lisa Timchak (USFS), Ryan Foote (USFS), Kevin Knauth (USFS), Wade Sims (USFS), Erick Walker (USFS), Jay Kirchner (USFS), Ed Morgan (USFS), Sue Colyer (USFS), Jim Gebhardt (USFS), Leslie Stanley (Shoshone County Commissioner), Mike Nielsen, Boundary County Commissioner
Note Taker: Shoshana Cooper

Jon Cantamessa opened the meeting with introductions and updates. **Jack Buell** attended the Idaho Forest Products Commission is working hard to get the word out on logging and visiting schools. Discussed clearcut logging. Recommended that large companies put up signs explaining what they are doing. Truck and fuel costs are going up and there are not any evident solutions. **Jackie McAvoy** Idaho Women in Timber group is not as active as they used to be but are still dedicated to what they do. Jackie has requests to do classroom presentations. **Patty Perry** the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho has several projects in the hopper and staying on track with timelines. Lots going on with river restoration work. **Terry Steiner** commented on the lack of trail maintenance that is being done after sequestration last year. Trails are in really bad shape. **Bob McCoy** visited the Lightning Creek drainage last fall. Found it to be a very neat ecological area. **Neil Smith** attended the intermountain logging conference in Spokane. There was a lot of really good information presented. Wildfires are emitting more carbon. Stu Hoyt gave a presentation on the effectiveness of smaller fuel management fires. Neil encouraged the forest to focus on the scale of projects. Language in the Farm Bill was helpful to the forest service and the RAC should prioritize projects based on the Farm Bill. **Robin Stanley** several years ago had a federal review of the RAC program. The interviewer was very complimentary of the RAC. Robin feels that our RAC is no longer engaged. Would like more time to look at the projects, review and engage view projects. Would like the RAC to participate in field trips. **Mary Farnsworth:** The forest experienced an 8% cut in most program areas with recreation experiencing a 30% budget reduction. Can barely afford operation and maintenance let alone keeping campgrounds open. The IPNF's ability to produce and meet target responsibility allows the forest to remain stable in FY14. The Farm Bill had several items that assisted the FS to be more efficient in operations. Made Stewardship contracts are now a permanent authority. Allows the forest to put the receipts locally on the ground in the community instead of returning to a general fund. CE authority allows for an expedited environmental analysis for fuel treatment areas. The Governor requested priority fuel treatment areas from each forest that were identified during a collaborative process. The IPNF submitted the 5YAP, approximately 5000 acres, for priority.

- I. **Vice Chair Nomination:** MariBeth Lynch made a motion to nominate Robin Stanley as the Vice Chair of the RAC Committee. Terry Steiner seconded the motion. **The RAC voted unanimously to approve the motion.**

II. RAC Funding Amount: The RAC received 19 project proposals for a total of \$747,234.00. There are \$643,031.00 in Title II funds available to fund projects.

III. Current List of Idaho Panhandle RAC Project Proposals with Title II \$ Amount Request:

- 14_1 IPNF Noxious Weeds Treatment (\$28, 700)
- 14_2 Forest-Wide Timber Sale Layout and Prep (\$89,960)
- 14_3 IPNF Road Maintenance (\$100,000)
- 14_4 Forest Tours for Teachers and Opinion Leaders (\$5,000)
- 14_5 Idaho Project Learning Tree (\$5,000)
- 14_6 Trailing Tepee LiDAR Data Collection (\$55,000)
- 14_7 Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District Cedar Grove Trail Bridge Approach (\$16,000)
- 14_8 Coeur d'Alene River Ranger District GS-5 Trail Technicians (\$27,600)
- 14_9 Brebner Flat Stand Exams (\$15,000)
- 14_10 Snow Peak Wildlife Management Area Stand Exams (\$15,000)
- 14_11 IPNF GRAIP Base Erosion Rate Investigation (\$9,800)
- 14_12 IPNF Motorcycle Trail Crew (\$31,500)
- 14_13 IPNF NZ Trail Maintenance and Youth Employment (\$43,000)
- 14_14 IPNF Recreation Site Sanitation (\$30,000)
- 14_15 IPNF Recreation Visitor Services (\$136,400)
- 14_16 Selkirk Grizzly Bear Remote Cameras and DNA collection (\$18,000)
- 14_17 Treasured Landscapes Recreation Project Environmental Analysis (\$37,113)
- 14_18 Treasured Landscapes Lightning Creek Instream Structures (\$34,161)
- 14_19 Priest Lake Search and Rescue (\$50,000)

IV. Approved RAC Projects

<i>Project Number</i>	<i>Project Name</i>	<i>Proposed Title II \$</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Amount Funded</i>
14_01	IPNF Noxious Weeds Treatment	\$28,700.00	Approved	\$27,600.00
14_02	Forest-Wide Timber Sale Layout and Prep	\$89,960.00	Approved	\$89,960.00
14_03	IPNF Road Maintenance	\$100,000.00	Approved	\$98,000.00
14_04	Forest Tours for Teachers and Opinion Leaders	\$5,000.00	Approved	\$5,000.00
14_05	Idaho Project Learning Tree	\$5,000.00	Approved	\$5,000.00
14_06	Trailing Tepee LiDAR Data Collection	\$55,000.00	Approved	\$53,000.00
14_07	CdA River RD Cedar Grove Trail Bridge Approach	\$16,000.00	Approved	\$16,000.00
14_08	CDA River RD GS-5 Trails Technicians	\$27,600.00	Approved	\$27,600.00
14_09	Brebner Flat Stand Exams	\$15,000.00	Approved	\$15,000.00
14_10	Snow Peak Wildlife Mgmt Area Stand Exams	\$15,000.00	Not Approved	\$0.00
14_11	IPNF GRAIP Base Erosion Rate Investigation	\$9,800.00	Approved	\$9,800.00
14_12	IPNF Motorcycle Trail Crew	\$31,500.00	Approved	\$31,500.00
14_13	IPNF NZ Trail Maint. and Youth	\$43,000.00	Approved	\$43,000.00

	Employment			
14_14	IPNF Recreation Site Sanitation	\$30,000.00	Approved	\$30,000.00
14_15	IPNF Recreation Visitor Services	\$136,400.00	Approved	\$136,400.00
14_16	Selkirk Grizzly Bear Remote Cameras & DNA Collection	\$18,000.00	Approved	\$16,000.00
14_17	Treasured Landscapes Recreation Project Environmental Analysis	\$37,113.00	Not Approved	\$0.00
14_18	Treasured Landscapes Lightning Creek Instream Structures	\$34,161.00	Approved	\$34,161.00
14_19	Priest Lake Search and Rescue	\$50,000.00	Approved	

Terry Steiner made a motion to accept the projects as funded. MariBeth Lynch seconded the motion. The RAC voted unanimously to approve the motion. Barb Botsch made a motion to allow the forest the discretion to spend any unspent money among any of the projects listed above. Jon Cantamessa seconded the motion. The RAC voted unanimously to approve the motion.